

As an licensed amateur radio operator that is employed designing and manufacturing amateur radio equipment I am opposed to broadband radio frequency use of power lines for any purpose.

It has been my experience that power companies through out the US cannot simply maintain their power lines to carry 60 Hz electrical power without radio interference. On many occasions I have been interfered with by power line noise. Any attempt that I have made to contact these companies and have them rectify this interference has been practically futile. They are not responsive and they do not have the technical resources to do this maintenance.

The idea of a power utility maintaining a broadband RF network would be much more difficult. Until they demonstrate that they have the ability to cure the present power line inference they should never be allowed to have the potential to generate more serious interference.

Wireless communication has increasing inference from part 15 devices, shielded cable television systems. Unshielded power line systems could only be worse.

The net effect of allowing ever increasing levels of radio interference can only ultimately render all forms of wireless radio communications useless. It seems that is the direction that we are taking. The net effect may be that amateur radio as an emergency communications resource will eventually become non-existent due to interference from multiple sources. Wired communications cannot be relied upon during a serious emergency.

Until the power and light companies demonstrate that there present service is free from radio interference they should not be allowed to generate even more.